

Carson Edges Electric In Thriller

Batter's Box That Wasn't There Causes Rhubarb In Second Inning

The Carson Merchants held a secure, two game lead in Class "A" softball standings today after beating their chief competitors, National Electric, 2-1 Monday night in a dispute filled tightly played game at Torrance Park.

With only three games remaining in the season, it looks as if the Herald perpetual trophy is going to switch hands this year. Present holder of the trophy is the National Electric team.

Tonight, Electric meets the Marine Clerks, and the Merchants meet the hard charging Midland Rubber team at Torrance Park. A win by Electric coupled with a Carson loss could change things in the league, but the Merchants showed no signs

of being easy to take in Monday's game.

Virgil Jones, lanky Merchant pitcher, had complete control of the game at all times, limiting Electric to two hits, and whiffing seven. George Pearson hurled a strong game for the losers, allowing two hits and fanning 13. He failed to get the support that his rival had, however.

In the second frame, Merchant Lucky Humiston was called out for having his rear foot four inches outside of the batter's box, after he had bunted, and had traveled all the way around the bases to score on two errors.

The disputed play started when Humiston bunted down the first base line and the throw to first was wild, sailing into right field. Humiston continued around second to third, and the throw in from right field went wild also, allowing him to score.

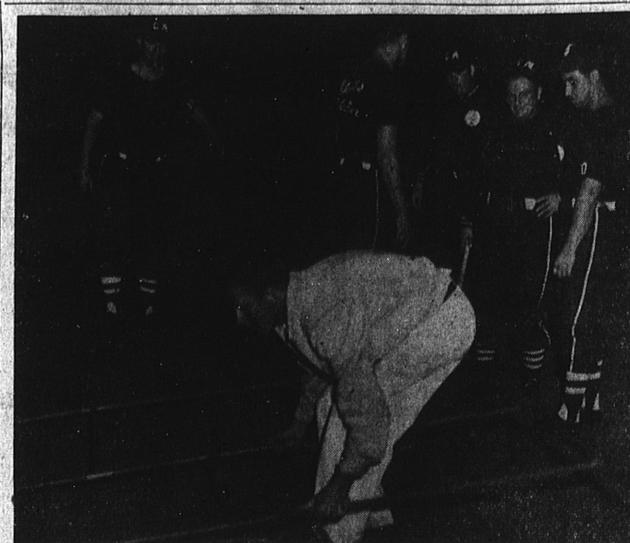
As soon as he had hit the ball, however, Umpire Dan Moon called him out for standing too far back.

This started a rhubarb between various managers and players on the Carson team and Umpire Moon. The Merchant spokesman held that since there was no batter's box drawn on the ground with chalk, it was impossible for the umpire to tell whether Humiston had been out of the box or not. Umpire Moon was adamant, insisting that Humiston had overstepped the bounds.

Finally, a groundsman came out and marked off the batter's box in white chalk. Humiston's run was stricken from the record books and the game continued. Immediately following the hassle, Bill Greer singled for Carson, went to second and to third on passed balls, then attempted to steal home on a third passed ball and was safe when third baseman Jim Nady dropped catcher Frank Schmidt's throw to the plate.

Thus, the Merchants drew first blood, but Electric came right back in their half of the inning. Gene Murphy blasted a double to right field, later went to third and scored on two passed balls.

The Merchants scored the clincher in the fifth frame, when Al Bernardo drew a walk, and trotted to second on a passed ball. Jack Samson and Keith El-



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This Week

THURSDAY, JULY 30
 Marine Clerks vs. National Electric, Class "A," Torrance Park.
 Midland Rubber vs. Carson Merchants, Class "A," Torrance Park.
 Midland Rubber vs. Torrance Gardens, Blue Streak, WALTERIA.
 Fire Department "B," vs. National Supply, Blue Streak, WALTERIA.
 Lomita Lassies vs. Miss Fitz, Girls Softball, McMASTER.
 Torrance "A," vs. Torrance "B," Little Coast League, Torrance Park, 6:15 p.m.
 Giants vs. Pirates, Little League Park.

FRIDAY, JULY 31
 Strescon vs. Harbor Hornets, Class "B," McMASTER.
 South Bay Church vs. Hi-Shear, Class "B," McMASTER.
 Mayfair Creamery vs. Columbia Employees, Blue Streak, Torrance Park.
 Fire Department "A," vs. WALTERIA Methodists, Blue Streak Torrance Park.
 WMYF vs. Aztecs, Junior League, WALTERIA.
 Y Junior vs. Perry Braves, Junior League, WALTERIA.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1
 Pirates vs. Cards, Little League field.
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 2
 Cubs vs. Dodgers, Little League field.
 Braves vs. Giants, Little League field.
 Torrance "A," vs. Inglewood, Little Coast League, Torrance Park.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3
 Dow Chemical vs. National Electric, Class "A," Torrance Park.
 Carson Merchants vs. National Supply, Class "A," Torrance Park.
 WALTERIA BMA vs. Harbor Hornets, Class "B," WALTERIA.
 WALTERIA Merchants vs. Home Loan, Class "B," WALTERIA.
 Junior Chamber of Commerce vs. Optimists, Junior League, McMASTER.
 Y Juniors vs. WMYF, Junior League, McMASTER.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4
 Optimists vs. Lutheran Men, Slo-Pitch, Torrance Park.
 American Legion vs. WALTERIA BMA, Slo-Pitch, Torrance Park.
 MGs vs. Miss Fitz, Girl Softball, WALTERIA.
 Harvey vs. WALTERIA, Girls Softball, WALTERIA.
 Pirates vs. Cubs, Little League field.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5
 Hi-Shear vs. Home Loan, Class "B," Torrance Park.
 Strescon vs. WALTERIA BMA, Class "B," Torrance Park.

CLOSING THE BARN DOOR . . . Problem: Can a batter be called out for standing with his foot outside of a batter's box that isn't there? Lucky Humiston of the Carson Merchants, (back to camera) was called out by Umpire Dan Moon for the above rule violation, precipitating a near-riot at Torrance Park Monday night. Score-and-grounds keeper Dale Wicksfrom, center, decided to chalk in the batter's box after the hassle quieted down. Merchants (right to left) Snuffy Machado, Manager Pete Baronich, and Keith Elvert look on with displeasure as Bill Greer (left background) waves his bat in disgust. The run Humiston scored on the play was ruled out, but the Merchants won anyhow.

Cards Gun for Pennant With 3 Game Lead As Season Nears End

Three games ahead in league standings, and with only four games left to play in the season, the Elks Cardinals looked like a shoo-in for the Little League pennant this week, unless the second place Harvey Machine Braves put on an amazing stretch drive.

Theoretically, if the Cards lost their four remaining games, and the Braves won their next four, the Braves could overtake the league leaders and win the league crown. But the way the Cards have been burning up the base paths, it looks like there is little chance of an upset.

In a game played Wednesday, the Cards met the Braves and had little trouble racking up a 7-1 win. Nat Harty tamed the Braves from the mound as his teammates rapped eight singles. Nine Brave errors helped the Cards score.

Sunday, the Cards scored in every inning but the fifth to hand the Bulder Giants a 5-0 setback. Gary Brimley was the winning Card pitcher and Ronnie Moore absorbed the loss.

Giants vs. Dodgers
 The Giants pulled a triple play in this game to help down the Dodgers 3-0. With meh on first and second in the sixth inning, Robert Vickers lined to Ernie Ivata who flipped to Mike Scott at second who fired to John Mewborn at first, doubling off both runners.

Giant chucker Paul Moir threw a two-hitter for the shutout and Ronnie Moore slammed three for three for the Giant cause.

Braves vs. Cubs
 The Lions Cubs pulled a brother act on the Braves Saturday. With the two teams tied 2-2 in the last of the seventh, and the winning run in scoring position, Kenny Simpson, who had three previous hits in three trips, stepped to the dish.

The Braves, utilizing strategy, walked Kenny to get to his brother, John Simpson. John then strutted up and bashed a single, scoring the winning run and wrapping up the game.

Jimmy Martin got the win for the Cubs, holding the Braves to two hits.

Dodgers vs. Pirates
 Emil Capik tossed a four hit shut-out to blank the Pirates 3-0. The Pirate pitcher, Rusty Roberts, also allowed only four hits but untimely errors by his teammates cost the ball game. Bill Bartleson pulled an unassisted double play for the winners.



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